

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL
July 15, 2015 10:00 am to 3:30 pm
Polk County River Place, Room 1
2309 Euclid Ave Des Moines, IA
MEETING MINUTES

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Teresa Bomhoff	Craig Matzke
Kenneth Briggs Jr.	Tammy Nyden (phone)
Jim Chesnik (phone)	Donna Richard-Langer (phone)
Jackie Dieckmann	Brad Richardson (phone)
Jim Donoghue	Jim Rixner
Kathleen Goines	Lee Ann Russo
Kris Graves	Christina Schark (phone)
Julie Kalambokidis	Dennis Sharp (phone)
Gary Keller	Rhonda Shouse
Anna Killpack	Kathy Stone (phone)
Todd Lange (phone)	Jennifer Vitko
Amber Lewis (phone)	Kimberly Wilson

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Julie Hartman	Lori Reynolds
Marlene Jessop	DJ Swope
Sharon Lambert	Lisa Wunn

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Jess Benson	Legislative Services Agency
Kristi Dierking	Marion County, Mid-Iowa Behavioral Health Region
Deb Johnson	Bureau Chief, Long Term Care, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise
Mary Mohrhauser	DHS, MHDS, Community Services & Planning
Peter Schumacher	DHS, MHDS, Community Services & Planning
Rick Shults	Division Administrator, Mental Health and Disability Services

Chair Teresa Bomhoff called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led introductions. Quorum was established with 15 members present and 9 participating by phone.

Approval of Minutes

Craig Matzke made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2015 meeting. Gary Keller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Nominations Committee – by Dennis Sharp

The Planning Council has vacancies for a person in recovery, a representative from Mental Health and Disability Services, and a representative from Iowa Medicaid Enterprise. Dennis Sharp said he currently does not have any applications. Teresa Bomhoff encouraged members of the Planning Council to recruit people who may be interested in serving.

Monitoring and Oversight Committee – by Jackie Dieckmann

Jackie Dieckmann reported that the Monitoring and Oversight Committee had not met. Jackie said that the Department of Human Services (DHS) is waiting for further guidance from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) before moving forward on the 2016-2017 Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) application.

Mary Mohrhauser spoke about the MHBG contracting process. State contracts are allowed to be renewed five times for a total of six years before they need to go through a new bidding process. Many MHBG contracts are beginning their final year of renewal this year. Teresa Bomhoff said that the Monitoring and Oversight may review these contracts as long as they are on the premises and with a DHS staff member. Jackie Dieckmann asked if Mary would be open to that. Mary answered that she is, but she may not have time until the middle of September. Teresa Bomhoff said that in the past, the Planning Council had reviewed contracts and found that there was a lot of variation in how they were managed.

Kim Wilson asked if there is anything DHS is doing with MHBG funds to monitor the workforce shortage in the state. Mary answered that DHS is not monitoring workforce with MHBG funds.

State Agency Reports:**Finance Authority – Amber Lewis**

Amber spoke about iowahousingsearch.org, which is a free rental housing location tool. The website is designed to show rental properties all over the state of Iowa and the services and amenities of the properties including transportation in the area. The website has been running for approximately a year and a half, and continues to improve every week.

Iowa Finance Authority is also prioritizing needs to determine how to best allocate funds for the low-income housing tax credit program.

Social Services – Jim Chesnik

Jim said that he works with child welfare contractors across the state, and that he is seeing an increase in reports of difficult behavior from providers and foster parents. Jim asked if the Planning Council had any information or knew of anything that could help in any way. Jim also said that more children are being sent to Psychiatric Medical

Institutions for Children (PMICs) and the result has been a longer waiting list for placement in these facilities as well as children being sent to shelters. Teresa Bomhoff spoke about the NAMI Children's Mental Health group that is developing a report on children's mental health in Iowa. The NAMI group will be presenting their report on September 17 at 3pm in the Capitol Rotunda.

Corrections – by Dr. Gary Keller

Dr. Keller said the Department of Corrections continues to implement a community-based corrections program with doctors going to several locations in the state in person and also using telemedicine to meet with inmates and people who are on parole. Dr. Keller said Corrections is focused on getting inmates through prison, and out as successfully as possible. The Department has hired another fulltime psychiatrist, so Corrections currently has seven fulltime doctors.

There was a discussion about individuals entering the corrections system rather than being placed in inpatient psychiatric care, which is more costly. Jim Rixner said that the corrections system can provide high quality mental health care while people are in the system, however when they leave they have problems finding work and care. Jim expressed concern that this contributes to recidivism and prevents individuals from integrating back into the community.

There was a lively discussion about the challenges to Iowa's regional mental health system. The discussion included the closure of the Mental Health Institutions (MHIs) in Clarinda and Mt. Pleasant, difficulties finding appropriate placements for individuals under commitment orders, availability of resources, and the level of staff training in nursing facilities that have admitted individuals who need inpatient treatment.

Teresa Bomhoff handed out materials she had prepared that contained information about Iowa's mental health system. Teresa included a history of Iowa's Mental Health Redesign process year-by-year, and a list of the Governor's line-item vetoes in this year's Health and Human Services Appropriation Bill, Senate File 505.

DHS/MHDS Update- Rick Shults

Rick Shults said that Iowa is putting a significant amount of effort into the Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) process for individuals in nursing facilities. PASRR screenings are done for all people being admitted to nursing facilities to ensure that any mental health or specialized needs are recognized and can be met by that nursing facility. DHS is doing an intensive training on the PASRR process with hospitals and nursing facilities. This is not a change in PASRR, but a continued effort to provide appropriate care to individuals in nursing facilities.

Rick said DHS is working to get an inpatient psychiatric bed tracking system up and running. There will be a testing phase during July, and the system will be fully implemented by August 1.

Rhonda Shouse asked if hospitals are required to enter data into the system. Rick answered that it is voluntary, but that the Iowa Hospital Association is very enthusiastic about the system, and is encouraging its member hospitals to participate. Teresa Bomhoff said this system makes it easier for law enforcement and the courts to find a placement.

Rick said the system will track beds for children and adults, and will track high-level categories of eligibility such as type of commitment and sex. This will not be a solution to everything, but it is a step in the right direction.

Iowa has applied to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for a planning grant for the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) program. This program includes a preferred payment system that enhances reimbursement for at least two clinics that meet the criteria for CCBHCs. There will be twenty-five state planning grants awarded. Of those states, eight states will be selected for broad implementation.

Jim Rixner asked if his CMHC might be eligible to qualify due to its work in physical health as well as mental health. Rick answered that this program does not concern physical health, and that it is exclusively focused on mental and behavioral health care. Physical health services will not be a factor in considering eligibility.

Mid Iowa Region, which consists of Marion and Mahaska counties, has been notified that it will not be granted a second year of eligibility as a provisional mental health region. The two counties have been directed to enter into 28E agreements with other mental health regions.

Teresa asked if Southern Hills had been working with DHS. Rick answered that Southern Hills was mentioned in the Appropriations bill, and that DHS will be working with them, though in a different manner than they work with Mid Iowa.

HF 468: has now made Mental Health Advocates employees of counties. The bill also directs DHS to write rules concerning professional qualifications, data collection, and other requirements of mental health advocates.

SF 505: is the Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill. Rick said that the bill currently does not fully fund the state's Medicaid program. There are other challenges for the department. There was one-time funding for MHDS regions. DHS is aware that regions are using their fund balances to provide services, and knows that sustainable and predictable funding for regions will be a point of interest in the near future.

Rick said there was an appropriation for training for applied behavioral analysts. Rhonda Shouse asked if anything was being done for people who are on the more capable end of the autism spectrum. Rick answered that there are several interventions

that are more or less effective for people depending on where they land on the autism spectrum because it is so wide.

Rick mentioned the Children's Mental Health and Well-Being Workgroup and a Home Modification grant/tax credit program that were also passed as part of the HHS appropriation.

The Planning Council broke for lunch at 12:40 pm.

The Planning Council resumed its meeting at 1:45 pm.

Legislative Primer- Jess Benson

Jess Benson introduced himself. Jess works for the Legislative Services Agency (LSA), which is a non-partisan agency that serves all 150 members of the General Assembly regardless of party. LSA has bill drafters, legal and fiscal analysts, and serves as a resource for legislators in policy issue areas.

Jess explained the process by which laws are made. Ideas come to legislators through conversations with constituents, letters, emails, or from departments or advocates. The legislator will request a bill on that idea is drafted by LSA, which the legislator will then file in their chamber. The bill will be assigned a committee, and the committee chair and ranking member will assign it a subcommittee. Subcommittees consist of two members of the majority party and one member of the minority party. If a majority of subcommittee members approve of the bill, it will move forward to the full committee in its area. The full committee will review and vote on the bill. The full committee can approve, vote down, or amend and approve. If the committee approves the bill, it moves to the majority leader who determines the calendar. The majority leader decides when bills are debated on the floor. If a bill has any fiscal impact, LSA writes a fiscal note to describe the financial impact of the bill. If the bill passes through the chamber, it moves to the other chamber and goes through the same process.

If the bill is amended in the second chamber, the amended version will return to the first chamber. The first chamber can agree or disagree, and if the chambers disagree, but still wish to pass some form of the bill, they can form a conference committee, which is composed of members of both houses who are given the authority to negotiate a compromise bill to move forward.

After bills pass both houses, they move to the Governor's office where the Governor can choose to sign them into law, or veto them.

The appropriations process is slightly different. The state operates on fiscal years that begin on July 1 and end of June 30. As the legislature passes a budget for fiscal year 16 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016), the departments are planning for their fiscal year 17 budgets. On October 1, departments submit budget requests to the Department of Management. The next step is the revenue estimating conference which is looking to

estimate how much total revenue the state will have to spend in the next fiscal year. Iowa operates on a 99% budget limitation, which means that the state's budget cannot exceed 99% of the revenue projected to come in that year.

Each section of the budget falls under a subcommittee that consists of members of both chambers of the legislature. Budget subcommittees meet throughout the session and hear from departments and advocates to discuss their budget requests. Subcommittee chairs will work with LSA to develop an appropriations bill that will be sent through both chambers, and lately all budget bills have gone to conference committees.

Rhonda Shouse asked when the Governor is required to make his budget request public. Jess answered that typically the governor discusses his budget request during the Condition of the State Address, but is required by law to release it by February 1. Many times, budgets do not tell the full story, and that may not be evident until all the Governor's bills are released.

Jess also explained the www.legis.iowa.gov website and how to find information on legislators, committees, committee meeting materials, etc.

Iowa Law Enforcement Academy- Craig Matzke

Judy Bradshaw is the new director of the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, and Craig said mental health training is a new focus. The Academy is going through a curriculum review. One of the things the academy is exploring is increasing the number of weeks of training for new officers.

Teresa Bomhoff asked how many weeks of training are required for new officers. Craig answered that it can vary depending on where you go and who you serve, but academies fall between fourteen and twenty-two weeks. Community Colleges that train officers with college degrees have a "short course" that is approximately eight to ten weeks.

Medicaid Update- Deb Johnson

Deb Johnson said DHS has pushed the date to announce the contract awards for managed care until August 13. There will be public hearings starting on July 27th for Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) to receive comments on the changes to various waiver programs including the implementation of the managed care waiver and the amendments to the state's waivers for family planning and Iowa Health and Wellness Program.

Deb said that IME released 2350 slots for waiver waiting lists, and there are currently approximately 500 people still in process. By the time IME accounted for people they were unable to contact or find, and the people who were screened and were found not to be eligible for the program, more than half of the people contacted did not actually claim a slot. This rate was foreseen, which is why IME released more slots than they have.

Rhonda Shouse asked how many people are found ineligible when their slot opens. Deb answered that it happens approximately half the time. There are pros and cons to the screening process currently used. Some would like IME to screen applicants up front, but often people are on the waiting list long enough that they would need to be screened again by the time a slot opened for them.

Teresa asked if the MCO contractors could administer the waiver programs differently. Deb answered that they would need to follow guidelines and meet certain outcomes with IME. MCOs are incentivized to support people within their homes rather than institutional services.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:32 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Peter Schumacher